

sheriffs. There are 16 counties on the Texas-Mexico border. All 16 of those sheriffs plus four other sheriffs are in what is called the Texas Border Sheriffs Coalition. And I talked to those individuals, specifically Sheriff Cuellar, who is the brother of our own Henry Cuellar from Laredo. He's the sheriff of Webb County. Sheriff Sigi Gonzalez from Zapata County, Sheriff Arvin West from Hudspeth County, and Sheriff Oscar Carrillo from Culberson County. And all of those individuals said basically the same thing, that they're concerned about what they call the "cross-border travelers" that come into the United States and commit crimes in the United States.

We hear a lot, Mr. Speaker, from all different sources about the crimes in Mexico coming into the United States. We have some that say they do occur. We have others that say, no, it's not really a problem over here. It's difficult to find out exactly what the truth is. So I asked the sheriffs of these counties who are responsible for the safety of their own community. These sheriffs patrol massive amounts of land, and I contacted them and asked them this question: How many people in your county jail are foreign nationals that are in jail charged with a crime in the United States, such as a misdemeanor or a felony, not foreign nationals who are in jail just on immigration violations? And it didn't make any difference what country they were from, but that was the question that I posed to these border sheriffs. And I will give you some of the statistics, Mr. Speaker, tonight.

In El Paso County, one of the largest counties on the Texas-Mexico border, the sheriff's department there said about 18 percent of the people in the county jail are foreign nationals. Hudspeth County right next door, which is a massive county that has really not enough sheriff's deputies, the sheriff told me personally that about 90 percent of the people in his county jail are foreign nationals charged with crimes in the United States. A massive amount of individuals.

Next door in Culberson County, it was about 22 percent. The four counties in the middle, Jeff Davis, Presidio, Brewster, and Terrell County, the statistics were not, shall I say, as accurate as the sheriffs wanted to give me; so I'm not going to give that information because I'm not sure about the exact percentage.

But if we move on down the Rio Grande River, and, of course, this is Mexico to the south and this is the rest of Texas up here, just going down the river, we have Val Verde County and about 39 percent of the people are foreign nationals. In Kinney County 71 percent of the people in the county jail are foreign nationals; Maverick County, 65 percent; Dimmit County, 45 percent; Webb County, that's where Laredo is, about 45 percent are from foreign countries; Zapata County, about 65 percent.

And moving on down the Rio Grande River to the Gulf of Mexico here, Starr County, 53 percent; Hidalgo County, 23 percent; and then Cameron County, where Brownsville matches or comes across from the river from Matamoros, about 28 percent.

So, Mr. Speaker, you can make statistics prove whatever you want them to prove, but it shows that people from foreign countries cross the Rio Grande River and come into the United States and commit crimes. These people need to be held accountable for that, and the way to do that is to secure our borders by using the National Guard, the Border Patrol, the sheriffs, the sheriff's deputies, and all the Federal agencies because the first duty of government is to protect our Nation.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MCHENRY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

GIVE AMERICA BACK TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, tonight as General Motors, Chrysler, and the United Auto Workers struggle with the imposed government deadlines that will determine their survival, I wish to share with you Harold Meyerson's article "Break Up the Banks" from The Washington Post last Friday.

You see, what has been holding up the deal to save the American auto industry, save America's jobs, and breathe life into communities where wealth is actually created and not just traded away is something not much talked about, and that is the megabanks, centered, yes, on Wall Street, again.

Citigroup and J.P. Morgan Chase that were huge Treasury bailout recipients, billions and billions and billions of dollars, who turned a profit this year, by the way, are the leading culprits for the rest of the banks in slowing down or impeding the Obama administration's efforts to restructure Chrysler. Currently, Chrysler's bonds found on the books of Citigroup and J.P. Morgan Chase are trading at 15 cents on the dollar. Despite increasingly better offers than that, Citigroup and J.P. Morgan Chase insist that they and their fellow banks are entitled to

more, more of your money. More of our money. That is greed in its purest form. More, more, and more for them and their cronies, and less and less and less for everyone else. They have bilked America on the front end and then on the back end.

First, the front end by restricting the availability of credit to consumers looking to purchase cars and car dealers looking to finance their showrooms. Just squeeze them down out of existence by shutting off their credit. And now at the back end by denying the restructuring of GM and Chrysler's debt. Yes, they keep America's cash but then deny us the ability to access it in the marketplace to buy cars and furnishing dealers' showroom floors. Very clever. It's a tourniquet at both ends.

Wall Street's idea is to bleed Chrysler retirees, Fiat, and the American taxpayers dry. They care for their own interest at the expense of the national interest.

The American automobile industry is just one victim of Wall Street's meltdown. The industry is the lifeblood of so many communities, and they were just on the cusp of a new green engine era, and they have been forced to their knees.

Of course, the banksters bail out their friends, firms like AIG. Beyond mere life support, they were handed over \$70 billion. That's putting all the auto bailout together and multiplying it times five. Not only does AIG have special access to policymakers and your tax dollars; they didn't have to take any haircuts.

Compare that to what is being asked of autoworkers: first, give up your job, move out of your community, cut your wages and your health benefits too, and, oh, by the way, we want to go after your retirement benefits, even the widows and retirees out of those firms.

Meanwhile, AIG pensioners, well, they're alive and well. Their health care benefits are not threatened. Their counterparty are kept whole. While hardworking blue collar America is squeezed dry, they're just as happy as clams.

Right now it's Wall Street versus the American people. Surely those that work hard and make things with their hands and end up with all the injuries to prove it, with bodily wear and tear, don't they deserve some regard? Don't they have some rights for three decades in an auto plant? Well, Citigroup, Bank of America, J.P. Morgan Chase, HSBC, Wells Fargo, and the rest of the high fliers up there on Wall Street, they want to deny these folks the right to their hard-earned benefits and wages.

American workers built and continue to build America, while Wall Street destroys not just capital; they destroy industries. They destroy communities. They destroy people's lives. Now, we can see who has that power. But that isn't what America was supposed to be